

Volume 11

Issue 2

December 16, 2005

Bus Two Homeward Bound ...or Not

by Sam Moxley

The Bus Two ride home from the Baylor-MBA football game was one of the most interesting and eventful nights in my life. The series of terrible events began just twenty minutes out of Chattanooga when our bus driver noticed that the generator gauge was dangerously low. We pulled over to a rest stop, where we stayed for another half hour while the driver called the bus station to figure out whether we should make a run to

Nashville or wait for another bus to pick us up. He decided to put all of

would have it, we got pulled over by a state trooper. He let us go because of our pitiful predicament. Our next stop was only twenty miles outside Nashville on exit 26 when our bus ran completely out of power on the exit ramp; we stayed at this location for another hour during which many weary travelers had to entertain themselves.

our lives on the line and speed madly down the highway in an attempt to make it as far as we could before we broke down. As luck

Several guys competed in rap battles; Pat Killian ended his 13th birthday; some people even tried to

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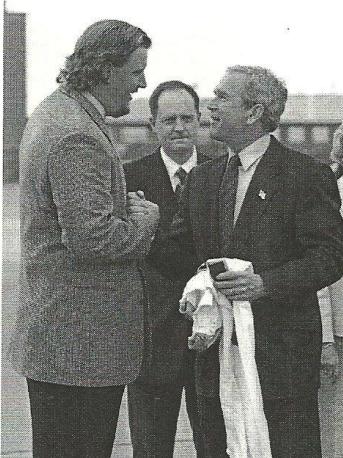
Bus Two: Before the Adventure

Remember the Titan?

by Alex Apple

Jason Mathews played college football at Texas A&M. He was then drafted by the Indianapolis Colts and played there for four years. He finished his pro career after playing eight years for the Tennessee Titans at tackle on the offensive line. Recently, I interviewed Mr. Mathews about his experiences in the NFL and how he made it to MBA to teach.

Alex: Was it really difficult for your family when you were



Jason Mathews takes on W

always practicing and traveling?

Mr. Mathews: Yes, it was. My son's birthday is July 21, and this was the first year I got to be with him on his birthday because before, I had always been at training camp.

Alex: Who was the meanest defensive player you ever played against?

Mr. Mathews: Definitely Joey Porter for the Pittsburgh Steelers because he is always talking smack.

Alex: What is it like to be on a team like this year's Titans team where your chances of making the playoffs are shot but you still have to play? What keeps you motivated?

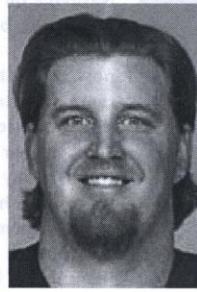
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Page 1

Features

Mr. Mathews: First off, it is your job. Secondly, you play for a sense of pride because when you step on that field you always want to win. Also, millions and millions of people around the world watch these games and you never want to be embarrassed on the field.

Alex: What brought you to MBA?
Mr. Mathews: I always wanted to

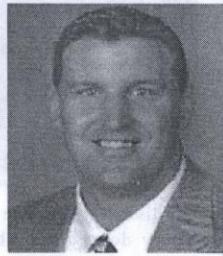


Just a little different!

be a teacher, and I lived next to Mr. Coverstone at the time. I interviewed, and it seemed like a good fit. So now, I get to teach and coach football. I just love to be around kids!

Alex: What is said in the huddle besides the playcall?

Mr. Mathews: The linemen remind each other of their assignments and sometimes Steve McNair will crack a joke.

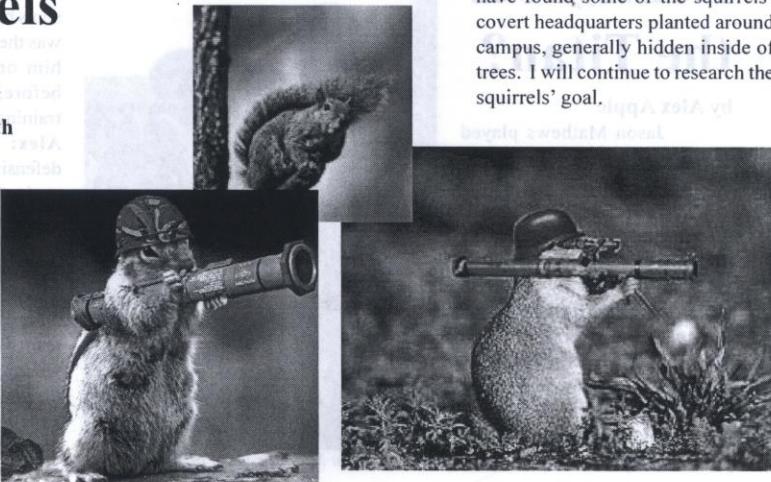


When Squirrels Attack

by Wilson Griffith

Since last year, squirrels have been dropping acorns on students walking between Massey and Ingram. This situation has become quite dangerous, so I decided to do some digging. The truth is that the squirrels

have developed an evil plan to infiltrate MBA. They are attempting this conquest by taking



Bus Two, Continued:

sleep, *tried* being the key word. We finally got picked up by Bus One, which had already made it to MBA and was headed back to the station, but we promptly got lost. Finally, we found our way to the interstate. It was a relief to arrive at Montgomery Bell Avenue, but we drove past MBA and had to back up to the gym, where our parents were anxiously waiting. Our arrival time was one in the morning, two hours after we were supposed to get back. Unfortunately, some people on the bus had demerit hall and sports practices early on Saturday morning, so they maybe got five to six hours of sleep. At least we won the ballgame!

out various students. Fortunately for us, they only have acorns and not weapons of mass destruction. I have found some of the squirrels' covert headquarters planted around campus, generally hidden inside of trees. I will continue to research the squirrels' goal.

Horoscopes

What Are You in For?

by Ben Mecklenborg

Aries (March 21-April 19)

In the next week, you will experience a newly acquired emotional pain. This pain may be caused by a disagreement with a close friend. If so, quickly apologize; a quarrel is not worth losing a friend.

Taurus

(April 20-May 20)

You will find yourself yelling out clichés from movies for no apparent reason. This behavior will seem odd at first, and you may try to stop it. But the stars say to stick with it; a great reward is in your future.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Beware of signs or people who contradict your opinions. As long as you believe you are right; you will

never lose a debate.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Use the words "saucy" and "ambiguous" in everyday speech; signs say great benefits will come from doing so.

Leo (July 23-Aug 22)

Say a prayer every day; there will be a tragedy soon in your life. When this day comes, beware of sharp

(*Waynes World 2*).

Scorpio (Oct 24-Nov 21)

Love and be loved is your philosophy; live by it.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21)

Great news will come on the day you least expect. Use this news to grow in your relationships with others, or you may perish.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19)

Never trust a man in a red coat.

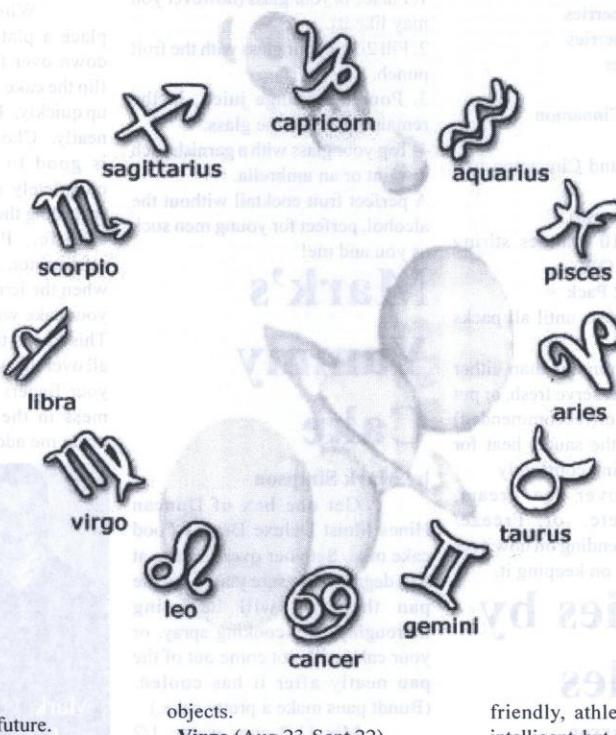
Always remember "The British are coming."

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18)

It is the Age of Aquarius; use this knowledge to your advantage and make great amounts of money. But be careful, it could be a trap.

Pisces (Feb 19-March 20)

You are friendly, athletic, and somewhat intelligent, but do not let your ability go to your head; it could be catastrophic. Make friends with many Tauruses because they will keep you safe.



Good Eats

Sternie's Berry Sauce

by Zach Sternberg

Ingredients:

2 Packs of Blackberries
1 Pack of Raspberries
1 Pack of Blueberries
3 1/2 Cups Suger
1/8 Cup Water
2 Tablespoons Cinnamon

Simmer Water and Cinnamon in a saucepan
Add 1/2 Pack Berries
Let Cook for 10 minutes stirring
Constantly on LOW
Add another 1/2 Pack
Repeat this process until all packs
are gone
Let cool for 5 minutes than either
freeze/refrigerate, serve fresh, or put
in food proccessor(reccommended)
After pureeing the sauce, heat for
10 minutes stirring constantly
Serve fresh over ice cream,
cheesecake, etc. or Freeze/
Refrigerate, depending on how ever
long you expect on keeping it.

Cookies by Charles

by Charles Herron

Ingredients: Love, Time,
Compassion, Pillsbury ready-to-
bake cookie dough
Directions: Follow the directions on
the package. Enjoy!

Page 4

Danny-ade

by Daniel White

Ingredients:

Ice (preferably crushed)
Hawaiian Punch (or any cherry fruit
punch like Hi-C)
Orange juice (Simply Orange works
best)

Steps:

1. Put ice in your glass (however you
may like it).
2. Fill 2/3 of your glass with the fruit
punch.
3. Pour the orange juice in the
remaining 1/3 of the glass.
4. Top your glass with a garnish such
as mint or an umbrella.

A perfect fruit cocktail without the
alcohol, perfect for young men such
as you and me!

Mark's Yummy Cake

by Mark Simpson

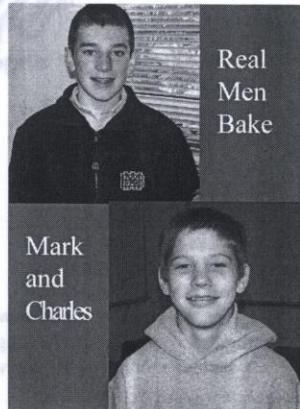
Get one box of Duncan Hines Moist Deluxe Devil's Food cake mix. Set your oven to bake at 350 degrees. Be sure you spray the pan that you will be using thoroughly with cooking spray, or your cake will not come out of the pan neatly after it has cooled. (Bundt pans make a pretty cake.)

Mix 1 1/3 cups water, 1/2 cup vegetable oil, and 3 large eggs with a blender. Start on low speed on your electric mixer until everything is mixed together. Then go to medium speed for two minutes

or else you will fling dry mix
everywhere.

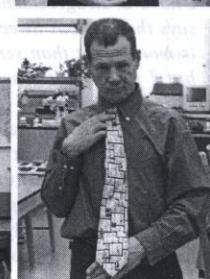
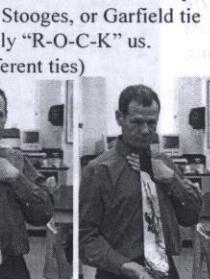
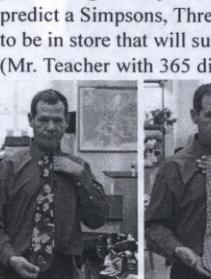
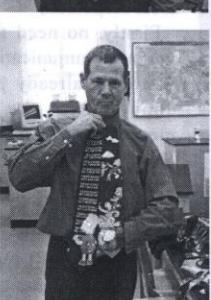
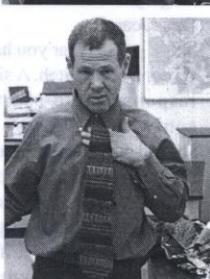
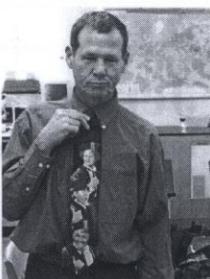
Pour the batter into the pan
and bake the appropriate amount of
time. There is a handy chart on the
back of the box for times, depending
on the pan you use. Bundt pans take
45 minutes. Be sure you set the timer
because you might get caught up
playing or watching football and
forget all about the cake in the oven.

When the cake is cool,
place a plate or tray bottom side
down over the top of the pan and
flip the cake pan and plate right side
up quickly. The cake should fall out
neatly. Chocolate icing in the can
is good to use if your cake is
completely cool. Take your time
spreading the icing on the cake with
a knife. Put your cake in the
refrigerator. After about 10 minutes
when the icing has hardened, cover
your cake with foil or plastic wrap.
This keeps the icing from sticking
all over the wrap. Now you can lick
your fingers and go clean up your
mess in the kitchen (my mother
made me add that part). Enjoy.



Mark
and
Charles

Style At MBA



Real MBA Heroes: Mr. Teacher With 365 Different Ties

Ben Mecklenborg

ToH presents: Real MBA Heroes
(Real MBA Heroes)

Today we salute you, Mr. Teacher with 365 different ties!

(Mr. Teacher with 365 different ties)

No matter what the occasion, we can always count on you to have a bizarre novelty tie that almost literally, but really doesn't scream "today."

(Almost screams today)

Every night you can rest assured, Man of Many Ties, that your motorized tie organizer will have a nice, clean, flamboyant tie for the next 364 tomorrows that is unquestionably trendy.

(JK. Just Joshing)

So crack open your grade-book, Mr. Teacher with 365 different ties. We may not really understand your strange hobby, but we know we can always predict a Simpsons, Three Stooges, or Garfield tie to be in store that will surely "R-O-C-K" us.

(Mr. Teacher with 365 different ties)

Amish Advice

Ask Jeremiah

by Jeremiah Mecklenborgiah
Jean E. Bottle writes:

Jeremiah, I can't stop thinking about the scar on my forehead caused by my brain surgery. What should I do?

Dear Jean E,

This scar you haveth tis not a hefty hitch. A simple response tis to sport thy sou'wester which thou should already wear every day (or upset the Prophet Jacob) so that your face tis never exposed to the light of the sun. For instance, if thou art outside working vigorously at about five o'clock, turn thy back to the rising sun so that the shadow tis masking thee hideous myopia upon thy cranium. Always remember, Jean E, "the light of the sun is the light that exposes the truth."

Coach McMurray writes:

A friend of mine and I have a disagreement. He says that Serious Sweetness is more sweet than serious, but I think that it's more serious than sweet.

Dear Coach McMurray,

Thou hath a legitimate argument concerning an age-old question exceptionally close to my heart. Thee question hath been

asked for hundreds of years in my village, and I believeth tis in the cornea of the observer; there is really no clear answer to how serious or sweet Serious Sweetness really is. But to settle thy dispute, and haveth a lot of fun, thou must find the seriousest and the sweetest item thou canst think of. Run both items over with the plow of the village buffoon. The item that

more Seriously Sweet.

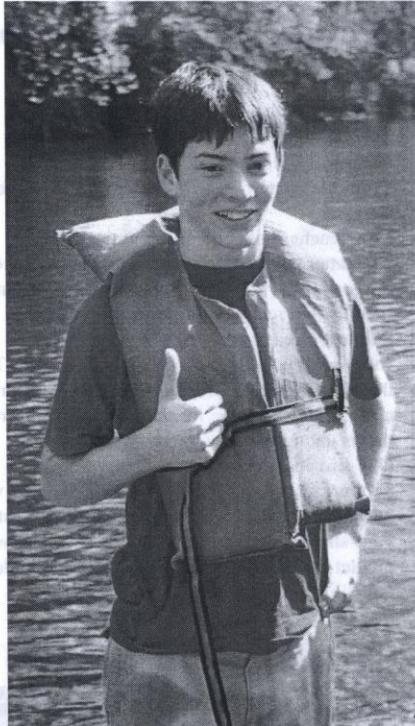
Constantly keep in mind this old village proverb, Coach McMurray: "Serumweat est une Serumweat globumal dewicum." Translated: Serious Sweetness is only as seriously sweet as the seriouslessest and sweetlessest items in the world. Hope I helpheth!

Napoleon Dynamite writes:

Geeeeeeeze, I have this flippin' dance coming up, and no flippin' chick will go with me. I think it is because of my flippin' lack of skills. I don't have bow-hunting skills or num-chuck skills. Pretty much the only flippin' thing I'm good at is Rex Cwan Do. What should I do?

Dear Napoleon,

Firstly, no need for poor verbal communication; this world tis already polluted enough with the demon electricity you imps use. Secondly, I don't comprehend why thou wouldest want to go to a hoedown with a chicken. Thirdly, I shan't reply to a man who executes creatures for a hobby; the great prophet Ishmael would not approve. Thou shalt learn to respect the tongue, the creatures of the Earth, and the sacred word of Ishmael! And so I say to thee, "Love makes the sun revolve around the Earth and people like you are causing the sun to stammer."



sustains more damage is therefore the item that is less Seriously Sweet. The item with less damage is the

Sports

The Chicago White Sox Undeserving Champions

by Seth Akers-Campbell

The Chicago White Sox may have swept the Astros in the World Series, but they probably should not have even gotten there. TV and radio announcers during the World Series and the postseason agreed that the White Sox were getting way too many calls that leaned toward their side. The key words in this article are A.J. Pierzynski. Remember that--A.J. Pierzynski. The three biggest "incidents" are as follows:

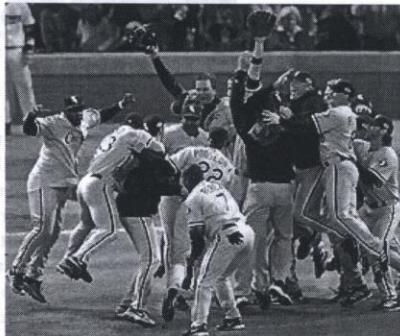
1. In the second game of the American League Championship Series (ALCS), Chicago White Sox catcher A.J. Pierzynski swung at strike three, missed, but ran to first because he believed that the catcher had dropped the ball. The umpire

failed to make it clear whether the ball had hit the dirt or not, but the Angels were already walking off the field into their dugout. Pierzynski stayed on first. He was allowed to stay on base, and he ended up scoring on the winning double by third baseman, Joe Crede. TV replays clearly showed that the ball had not touched the ground.

2. In game four of the ALCS, the umpire did not call interference on Chicago White Sox catcher A.J. Pierzynski, even though his glove had clearly hit Steve Finley's bat. 3. In game two of the World Series, Jermaine Dye pretended to get hit by a pitch, and the umpire let him go to first, even though it was clear at the time and later that the ball had not touched him. Dye scored on Paul

Konerko's grand slam the next at-bat. These are just three of the many calls that favored the White Sox.

At least they didn't imitate the Black Sox and pay the umpires—or did they? Anyway, the White Sox swept Houston four games to none in the 2005 World Series. The World Series MVP was Jermaine Dye as the White Sox won their first Series in 88 years.



Sports Quiz

For this one there will be a \$20 gift certificate to the movies! Kyle Brantley was the winner of the quiz from last issue. The winner will again be the person who gets the most questions right in the shortest amount of time. Send in those answers!

1. Which two people have played quarterback this season for the Tennessee Vols?
2. Who is the current coach of Notre Dame's football team?
3. What NBA team does Larry Brown coach?
4. Which team won the 2005 NCAA men's basketball national championship?
5. Which team won the 1991 NCAA men's basketball national championship?
6. At what school did Pete Maravich go to college?
7. At what school does Phillip Fulmer coach college football?
8. Who is the athletic director at the University of Washington? (Hint: Used to be at Vanderbilt)
9. Who won the 1983-84 NBA sixth-man award?
10. Who is the starting quarterback for the Cincinnati Bengals?

Send answers to Alex Apple.

Sports

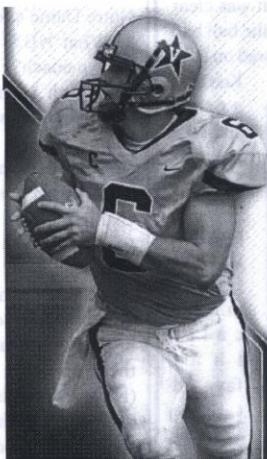
Top Ten College Rivalries

by Alex Apple

College sports are dominated by long-standing rivalries and traditions. When two rivals clash, the intensity is unparalleled. Thousands of sports rivalries exist, but here are ten of the very best.

We start off at number ten, with Virginia vs. Virginia Tech in football, the Battle for the Commonwealth Cup. The rivalry has been fairly even with the all-time head-to-head record standing at 49-37-5

(wins-losses-ties) in favor of Virginia Tech. Tennessee vs. Alabama in football comes in at number nine. The series is very historic, and this season Alabama picked up a low-scoring win. Tennessee is 10-3 against Alabama



SEC Offensive Player of the Year

SEC Offensive Player of the Year Jay Cutler

Page 8

in the Phil Fulmer era.. A rivalry between these two schools is also beginning on the basketball court. Notre Dame vs. USC in football is at number eight. This match-up is dubbed the Battle for the Jeweled Shillelagh. The rivalry between Miami and Florida State's football teams is number seven. This in-state rivalry has created bad blood between the two teams. Several times Florida State has missed game winning field goals "wide right". Number six goes to Texas vs. Oklahoma in football as well as basketball.

Both schools have well-rounded athletic programs. The two football teams face off every year at the Red River Shootout. The fifth best collegiate rivalry is Tennessee and Florida. Tennessee leads the series 19-15, winning two of the last three match-ups in The Swamp. This rivalry was very intense in the nineties when Phil Fulmer and Steve Spurrier would do battle. The fourth best college rivalry is Ohio State vs. Michigan in football. These teams go at each other non-stop in order to gain a position atop the Big Ten. This rivalry is made

special by the great fans of both teams. Michigan has the largest football stadium in the country with



Notre Dame vs. USC

110,000+ seats. Michigan leads the all time series 57-38-6. Kentucky vs. Duke in basketball is the third-ranked rivalry. Although these teams do not meet every year, this match-up includes some of the greatest sports moments ever, including Duke's Christian Laettner's turnaround three-pointer at the buzzer to knock Kentucky out of the 1992 NCAA tournament.

The final two match-ups are like no other. They bring great moments every year. Coming in at number two--Army vs. Navy in football. The two teams meet at the end of the regular season every year. The NCAA has given these two military schools their own week, the only game that is played is Army vs.

Sports

Navy. What make these games so special are the stories behind them. The greatness of this rivalry is shown by the all-time series record, 49-49-7. Many presidents, senators, and congressmen have attended this match-up and spoken to the teams before the game or at halftime. Finally, the number one college rivalry of all time

is....Duke vs North Carolina in basketball. Many classic moments have occurred in this rivalry. Also,

Duke beats UNC



the series has featured two of the best college basketball coaches of all time, Dean Smith and Mike Krzyzewski. Furthermore, these are two of the top five "winningest" programs in college basketball history. Seven national championships exist between the two schools, and Duke comes in at number one in all time NCAA tournament winning percentage with North Carolina number one at most high school All-Americans ever recruited. These two schools meet at least twice a year and both schools are at their best when playing each other. The Cameron Crazies (Duke students who attend games and jump around the whole time) and North Carolina fans also have a rivalry of their own. This contention simply cannot be matched.

Without these passionate rivalries, college sports would be dull and monotonous. These are the games that make college sports so exciting.

Great Season, Strong Finish!

Microbe Wrestlers

The microbe wrestlers completed their season with a second-place finish at the 2005 HVAC wrestling tournament. Mark Simpson and Daniel Todd both won their weight classes. Runner-up honors went to Charles Herron, Ben Sutter, and Jeff Nutkis. Alex Hunt, Andy Stack, Fitz Lassing, Andrew Phillips, and Austin Locke earned fourth-place finishes. Special recognition went to Mark Simpson and Charles Herron for Best Wrestler and Best Match, respectively. Congratulations to the microbe wrestlers for a great season and strong finish!

Austin
Andrew
Andy
Matt
Alex
Ben
Mark
Charles



HVAC Champs

Soccer Shootout A Team Soccer

by Michael Seitz

After a grueling month of play, the microbe A soccer season has come to a glorious and sudden close. At the start of the season, with only four returning former A team players as eighth graders and a load of seventh graders, and after losing a bunch of "stud" eighth graders from last year, the team's outlook on the upcoming season was not fully optimistic. The team got off to a slow start, but behind the great

Coach K, they made adjustments and got on a roll of wins. Anchored by George Curtis, Andrew Fletcher, Sam Embry, and Rob Smith, and aided by several seventh graders, the team bulldozed over usual HVAC strengths Woodland, Harding, Ensworth, CPA, Freedom, and BGA, finding that their demolition could not be stopped. Rising in the league ranks, MBA clenched the #1 seed heading into the HVAC tournament. After stomping BGA in the semis, the team went into the finals with the thought of creating a microbe soccer dynasty. Hit by the bitter freezing-cold temperatures, the squad faced off with the infamous BMS, who had tied MBA earlier in the season,

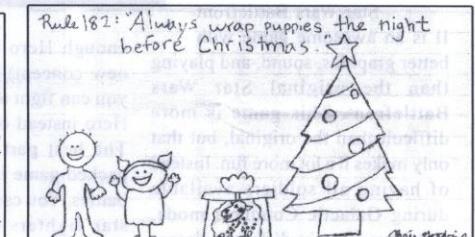
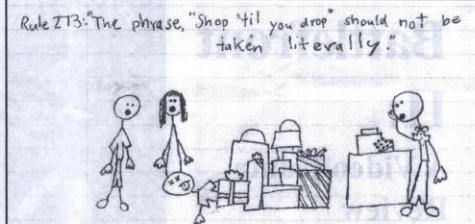
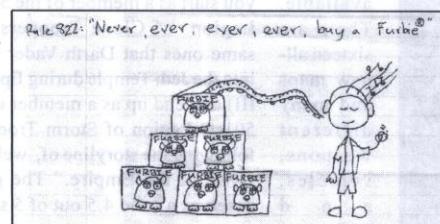
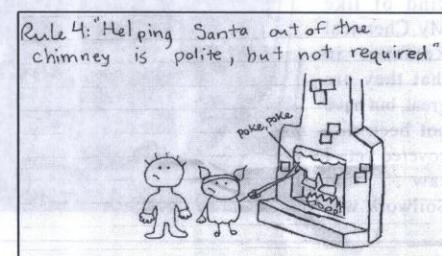
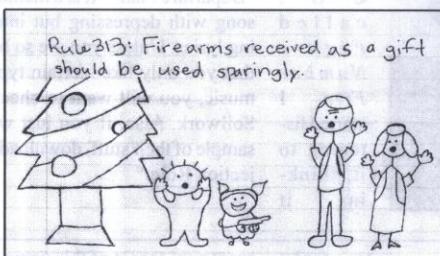
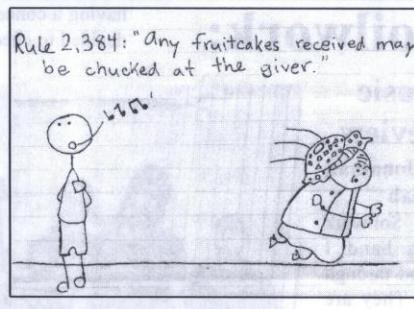
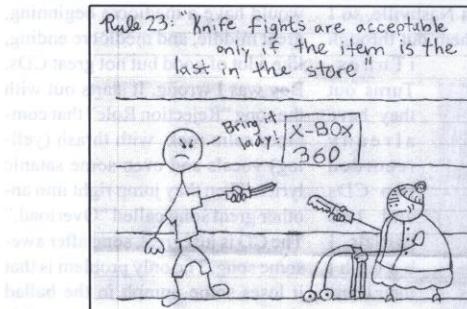
in a game full of long sleeves, hats, frozen water bottles, and a blazingly fast BMS striker. Without their key forward, MBA gritted out the conditions and proved dominant throughout but could not put the game away. Tied 2-2 at the final buzzer, the team went into overtime, but after an extra ten minutes of play, there remained no victor. Their entire season in the hands of four penalty shot takers and a seventh grade goalie, MBA prevailed in penalty kicks with a shut-out and secured the HVAC trophy at their home field, continuing on the streak of HVAC championships for the MBA junior school as the eighth grade makes their way toward the Inman All-sports award.



2005 HVAC Champions

Rules for the Holidays

by Chris Goodrich



Entertainment

Soilwork:

Music Review

by Jonathan Golab

Soilwork is a band I found through TV. They are kind of like My Chemical Romance in that they are great, but have not been discovered yet. I saw that Soilwork was

having a concert in Nashville, so I decided to check them out through

iTunes.

Turns out they have already recorded two CDs and two partials. I bought their latest CD, called *Figure Number Five*. I started listening to it, thinking it

would have a mediocre beginning, great middle, and mediocre ending, like a lot of good but not great CDs. Boy was I wrong. It starts out with the song "Rejection Role" that combines calm rock with thrash (yelling) vocals and even some satanic lyrics. Then they jump right into another great song called "Overload." The CD is just great, song after awesome song. The only problem is that it loses some umph in the ballad "Departure Plan." It is a memorable song with depressing but interesting lyrics. Unless you are so biased that you only like certain types of music, you will want to check out Soilwork. Also, if you just want a sample of their stuff, download "Rejection Role."

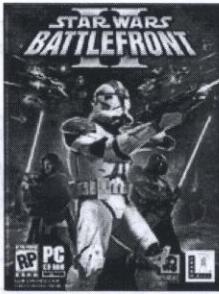


Star Wars Battlefront II:

A Video Game Review

by Seth Akers-Campbell

Star Wars Battlefront II is an awesome game with better graphics, sound, and playing than the original Star Wars Battlefront. This game is more difficult than the original, but that only makes it a lot more fun. Instead of having all soldiers available during Galactic Conquest mode, you have to train different classes



to make them available. There are sixteen all-new maps and many different weapons, vehicles, and soldiers. If you score

enough Hero Points (another new concept) during a battle, you can fight as a Jedi, Sith, or Hero instead of a regular unit. The best part of this action-packed game is the new space battles. You can fight in tons of star fighters with awesome tricks and weapons. Another



Entertainment

Energy Craze

by Pat Killian and Alvin Kim

Energy Drinks. Over recent months, more and more kids over-indulge themselves in these highly caffeinated drinks. But why? According to Rockstar Energy Drink, it is "formulated to speed the recovery time of those who lead active and exhausting lifestyles." Exhaustion by definition is serious weakness and loss of energy, extreme fatigue. How many students in the Junior School can honestly say that their day-to-day lives cause them muscle aches, appetite disturbance, or depression? Many do not even actively participate in sports. Obviously these drinks are not being drunk for the right reasons. So what are they being used for? Simple answer: stimulation. A single can of Sobe No Fear contains twice the amount of caffeine as black coffee plus extra energy ingredients such as taurine and creatine; that's quite a jolt. It is enough to cause your hands to shake uncontrollably and make your attention span nonexistent.

Some people, such as the writers of this article and eighth grade Earth Science teacher Mr. Spiegl, would call this consumption a health risk and serious detriment to a student's school work, but the student body overwhelmingly disagrees. At Mrs. Bakken's bake

sale on December 9th, thirty energy drinks (24 Red Bulls and 8 No Fears) were sold at prices higher than those in stores in a time span of ten minutes, which is completely out of hand. Kids have even been witnessed taking these drinks with their lunches. That is totally insane!

Perhaps the general public is not aware of the dangers of these drinks, so allow us to inform you. On the cans of energy supplements such as Rockstar and No Fear, there is a warning advising "children, pregnant women, and people sensitive to caffeine" to avoid this drink. The first group, children, are not physically capable of handling such large dosages of the ingredients of concoctions; the danger of caffeine is applicable to the body mass of the consumer, meaning the smaller the person the higher the risk. The third group, sensitive people, is for obvious reasons, but the second, pregnant women, is a real head-turner. The amount of caffeine and other stimulating ingredients in some energy drinks is enough to *kill* an unborn child. The drink accelerates the heart rate of the mother to levels that affect the blood flow to certain areas vital to the baby's health and survival. If that is not enough to convince you of the danger present in these abused and overused drinks, than we advise you to seek immediate psychological assistance.

We urge the students at MBA to avoid all forms of energy

drinks at school as they are hazardous to your health and really not beneficial to your school work. Eat healthy and exercise right and you should not have to resort to any "energy supplements".

Sean Paul

The Trinity

by Jonathan Golab

The Trinity is reggae rapper Sean Paul's follow-up to last years big seller *Dutty Rock*. If you have never heard one of his songs, let me ask you this: DO YOU NOT HAVE A RADIO??? He has had many hits including "Get Busy", "Like Glue", "Baby Boy", featuring Beyonce (all from *Dutty Rock*), and "We Be Burnin" (from *The Trinity*). Most of his songs are club bangers like "We Be Burnin", "Breakout", "Head in the Zone",



and "Eye Deh a Mi Knee", to name a few. But there also some love songs like "Ever Blazin". Overall, there isn't really anything wrong with this CD whatsoever; I give *The Trinity* a 4 out of 4.

Features

Here Lies Wilson

by Mr. Spiegel

Preface: I had heard of the existence of a deep hole in the Belmont area that swallowed children whole. I was wholly committed to tracking down the truth and the myth. My investigation led me to two MBA eighth graders, Harry West and Nate Smith, for answers. What follows here is a semi-accurate transcript of an interview with these young men.

Interviewer: "Who had the idea for the hole?"

Nate: "Harry! I was coming to spend the night with Harry, and he was already one foot deep into the excavation."

Interviewer: "What were you using to dig the hole?"

Harry: "A shovel and a post hole digger."

Interviewer: "How is it you know the correct name of the implement, Harry?"

Harry: "My dad uses them to dig holes for posts."

Interviewer: "Is this genetic? Do you get your skills from your father?"

Harry: "Yes!"

Interviewer: "Nate, have you inherited similar skills?"

Nate: "Definitely, from Dad's side of the family."

Interviewer: "What was your reaction to seeing the hole, Nate?"

Nate: "'Harry, this is cool!' I just joined in."

Interviewer: "Did it ever occur to you that he might be burying something?"

Nate: "No!"

Interviewer: "How deep did you eventually reach? How deep did the hole go?"

Harry: "5 feet, 10 inches."

Interviewer: "Did you have any problems while digging? How did you solve them?"

Harry: "The dirt was really hard. Water helped a lot. It softened the

voice) "The Mayans were in Central America!"

Interviewer: "Who's your Cultural Geography teacher?"

Nate: "Mr. Whitfield"

Harry: "Mr. McMurray"

Interviewer: "Kudos!"

Harry: (rapidly changing the subject) "I should tell you this story. I was playing hoops with my sister and dad, and the basketball got stuck in the hole."

Interviewer: "Who was shooting the basketball?"

Harry: "I was. (He continues) A week later, a friend came over, and my dad said he wanted to get the basketball back. So my dad and my friend lowered me down by the ankles into the hole, but I couldn't get the basketball."

Interviewer: "What was your friend's name?"

Harry: "Dillon Frazier"

Interviewer: "Did you ever think they were trying to get rid of you?"

Harry: (After pause and thought) "Maybe..., but we both tried and we couldn't get the ball out! We decided to bury the ball."

Interviewer: "What was the ball's name?"

Nate: "Wilson!"

Interviewer: "So you decided to bury Wilson! Would you have buried Spaulding?"

Harry and Nate: "Yes."

Interviewer: "Dunlop?"

Nate and Harry: "Yes."

Interviewer: "Who wouldn't you bury?"



Nate in Hole

Features

Both: (Thinking for a long time)
"Hmmmm...."

Interviewer: "How long did you work on the hole?"

Harry: "On day one, I worked for about one half hour, and then Nate got there, and we worked for two more hours, and we got to about three feet deep."

Nate: "And then it got dark, and we nailed a flashlight to a fence to continue digging, but it didn't work."

Harry: "So we got up at 7:00 AM the next day and continued digging for another two hours."

Nate: "And then we dug for several more hours the following week."

Interviewer: "Impressive, that you would get up at 7:00 a.m.! Any inspiration for your hole digging?"

Nate: "Tom Sawyer"

Harry: "I've always been a digger! I used to dig at my mom's house, and I used to dig at the beach!"

Interviewer: "How did you fill in the hole?"

Harry: "We used a wheelbarrow and shovels."

Nate: "And a hoe."

Interviewer: "Will you put up a tombstone with the epithet "Here lies Wilson?"

Harry and Nate: "Hmmm..."

(INTERVIEWER'S NOTE: Having sat through approximately 17 interviews per year during assembly over the course of the last five years or so, I think I have learned to interview. My formula: be spontaneous, ask the hard questions and above all, be brief and let the interviewees tell it like it is!)

Dodgeball Frenzy

by Campbell Haynes

This past quarter, the MBA Junior School Dodgeball Tournament was held. Many 7th and 8th graders participated, but the 8th grade proved superior, as only 8th graders advanced to the elimination rounds. Though the Bunny Stampede was favored to win the tourney, the Pajama Llamas came through in the clutch, defeating the Bunny Stampede, and blowing by the less talented Adrenaline Rush in the finals. Congratulations to all teams who participated. Here are some awards:

Best Team: Pajama Llamas

Best Game: Bunny Stampede vs. Black Magic

Cinderella Story: Adrenaline Rush

Best Team Name: Cookies n' Cream

Biggest Upset: Adrenaline Rush beating the Cookies n' Cream

Finals MVP: Sam Embry



Pajama Llamas



Kelly, Kyle, Katie, Allison, Zach, and Mr. Ferrell after pulling up a small tree!

Cleaning up the trails at Edwin Warner



Patrick Lovett got in a fight with a weed-whacker!

Winter Memories

Holiday Memories

Stuart Murphy: On Christmas Day, my parents had a camera out, and my dad was standing behind me. I became scared, so I asked my mom to open the box. Of course, I tore



Andrew Powell

the wrapper off and RAN! My parents had gotten me a crocodile head!

Kyle Brantley: Every Christmas, my sister and I take turns hiding the baby Jesus from our nativity scene until Christmas morning when we put him in his manger.

Sam Berklaich: My cat would always play with the decorations on our tree, so we had squirt bottles to keep her away. She would always sneak around the tree and run away.

One time we couldn't find her for three days. Then on Christmas Day, we plugged in the lights, and my cat went screaming out of the tree!

John Donlon: One Christmas my dad put a

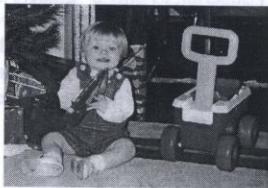


Andrew D'Aquila

big lump of coal addressed to my little sister from Santa Claus. When she opened it, she cried, and we all laughed and said, "Just kidding!" She was really mad and said it

locked in and turn out the lights. We would go crazy until she let us out.

Fitz Lassing: One day when it was snowing, my brother Bucket took a bet with my dad for \$20 that he would not sled down our hill naked. Of course, Bucket ran outside in the buff and sledded down the hill across the road. He came back in freezing and demanded his money!



Alex Blanton



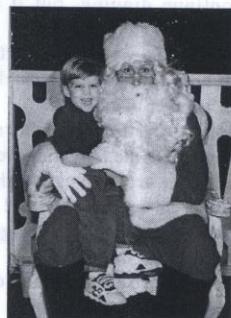
Alex Fettroll

should have been addressed to DAD!

Wiley Hunt:

When I was younger, my family would go to my grandfather's house for dinner. Our older cousins would bait us into the elevator, and when we would go back up, there.

John Lowe: One Christmas I found



Chris Vaughn

Rob Higham: On Christmas Eve, my brother and I always sleep on my sister's floor. One year around midnight when I was eight, I heard something on the roof and immediately concluded that it was Santa and his reindeer.

Andrew Fletcher: My dad and next door neighbor went on the roof above my room every year and stomped around like reindeer were



John Lowe

Winter Memories

out that a lamp could actually be considered a present.

Mikey Reid: One year my dad was at the hospital working the week before Christmas, so my mom, sister Mary-Lucy, and I set up the tree in

the living room. We had just finished putting on our favorite ornaments and went upstairs to play a game. Suddenly,

we heard a crash and ran downstairs. The tree had fallen on my mom, but luckily, she was okay. We set the tree back up and stayed downstairs for a while.

Tee Griscom: Every year, on my dad's side of the family, we play Evil Santa. It is a game of having, stealing, receiving good and bad presents. It is really fun. One year my great uncle changed the rules so he got all the best presents!

Jordan Herring: It was holiday break. My family and I were at the play "Alexander's Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day." After the play, we returned and discovered our Christmas tree had fallen over.



Cody Fisher



Matt Bracy



Rob Higham

I cried when I found my favorite train ornament broken. Hey, I was just eight.

Ben Sutter: One

Christmas, my friend and I found all our presents and opened them about a week before Christmas.

Zach Sternberg: I go to Vail every winter. One year I was going down a ski course and went head first into a building. I had a red lump on my head for a week.

Lee Grubbs: My cousin sang "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" during the first music part when you're not supposed to be singing!

John Andrews: One year at my house, Santa broke seven ornaments.

Ben Mecklenborg: One Christmas when I was five, we were at my aunt's house along with all of my dad's brothers, sisters, and parents. My grandpa dressed up as Santa, but my brother ruined the fun by saying, "That isn't Santa, that's my fat old grandpa!"

Mac Hudson: I remember the day I woke up on Christmas morning, looked outside, and saw pure white. I jumped for joy and ran outside. We were living in Wisconsin and spent the whole day outside.



Tyler Paslick



Kevin Carr



Douglas McWilliams

Winter Memories

S a m

Moxley: My favorite Christmas memory was when I got a CD player with some CDs, and I didn't take the headphones off the whole day.

Quinton
Burks: My favorite holiday memory is eating beignets every year on Christmas morning.

After this feast, my family and I watch a movie and just relax all day.

Sean McKinnis: One year I got a plastic chainsaw. When I pulled the cord, the trigger would make chainsaw noises. I ran outside to my neighbor's house and tried to cut down his trees.

Joshua Liang: I remember going skiing for Christmas with my cousins... I am always the first one to open the presents... I usually take a peek at the big present before



Lane Bullock



Jack Keyser

Christmas morning!

Corbin Williams: One morning when I was seven, I went downstairs, and there was a dog bowl and a bag of dog food. I ran to the bathroom, and there was my dog! It was probably the best Christmas ever.

Luke Colbert: On Thanksgiving, all the cousins draw names for Christmas gifts. I always want one of my girl cousins to draw my name because

they give the best gifts.

Jake Hymes: On the first night of Chanuka, my mom forgot to buy my sisters and me presents, so she gave us travel-sized toilet paper and Q-tips!

Tyler LeRoy: On

Christmas Eve, my entire family—aunts, grandparents, uncles, cousins—come to my house, and we have a big feast. We eat, talk, and have a ping pong tournament. Then everyone goes home, and the next morning they all come back for Christmas brunch.

Tyler Paslick: On Christmas 2003, I woke up and went downstairs. I had never seen so many presents. I opened

all the small presents first, and they were all really cool. I saved the big

present for last. I was expecting something amazing, but I got a telescope. I was crushed, but all the small presents

were good, so I was happy.

Sami Ansari: One day during the month of Ramadan, we invited a Jewish family to come to our house to break our fast. We also invited a news channel to come put the event in the newspaper. I had my picture in the Cincinnati Enquirer!

Gaige Bolden: I got my first puppy nine years ago for Christmas.

William Tanner: Every year we leave an ornament pickle and have



Martin Carter

Santa put it on the tree. The first person on Christmas morning to find the pickle on the tree gets an extra present.

Alvin Kim: At Thanksgiving, my



Patrick Duffy

Winter Memories



Jeffery Nutkis



Drew Lonegran



Russell and
Anderson



Franklin
Gaglione



brother and I had a food fight. My mom got angry and threw a whole bunch of food at both of us. Grapes, turkey, and rice were going in every direction!

Campbell

Haynes: When I was seven, I got sick at Christmas and spent the entire day in bed.

Thomas Moore: My family gets together every Christmas Eve, and it's a tradition to eat white beans from a Christmas mug.

Cole Doster: One Christmas I didn't get my present right back to us by like my presents. I wanted my mistake, the gold one set to my brother's Star Trek toy. I cried so he let me play with it.

Patrick Clarke: One Christmas as I was walking down the stairs to where the presents were, I tripped, fell, and came close to breaking my wrist.

Harry West: We would go downstairs on Christmas morning, get our stockings, and take them to my mom's room. Then, we could open our big presents.

Neil Reinhhardt: Once we gave a present to someone, and the next year he gave the same

Neil Ryan: When I was seven, we cut down the tree and brought it

home. We were setting it up in the den, but my dad let go of the tree, and it fell on me!

Eric Mace: My favorite Christmas memory was when I came

downstairs and

thought I saw

Santa!

My other favorite memory was when we were driving home, hit a pothole, and cracked the windshield. That pothole was about 15 inches deep!

John Lowe:

The best Christmas memory I have was when we went to Rome and Santa Claus came early.



Fitz Lassing



John Baker

Winter Memories

Carson Potter: I remember when I was little and waking up early, jumping on my parents' bed to wake them up, and then waiting on the stairs until my parents let me go downstairs.

Morgan Cram: My dad's mom always sends my family sweet rolls from Annapolis, Maryland.

The first thing I do every Christmas morning is eat about half of them.

Tommy Harless: One year my family and I had Christmas in a hotel. My dad was working in East Tennessee, so we decided to drive there. We ended up taking all our presents down to Florida where my cousins live.

Daniel Todd: On Christmas Day after we were coming back from my grandma's house, our long driveway iced over. My dad decided to play a joke on the family and faked to start going down the driveway, but he pressed too hard, and the car started to slide.

My dad got everyone out of the car, and my sister cried, "I hope dad's okay." I was more concerned about my presents!

Rob Smith: One Christmas morning, I came downstairs to see what I got. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw my brand new bike. I couldn't wait to ride it. As I was coming down the driveway on my new bike, my dog's tennis ball rolled across the driveway. I ran over it, crashed, and never rode that bike again.

Seth Akers-Campbell: One Christmas my grandfather bought me a guitar that I have never played except once, several years later, when the string broke.

Shep Patterson: One Christmas we got sleds. Our driveway was covered in ice. I pushed my sister down the driveway in her sled, and she almost got hit by a car.

Cameron Malakouti: One Christmas several years ago, my

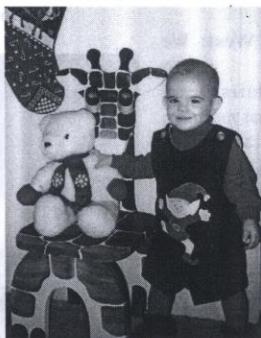
brother's girlfriend got him a really BIG present. I got so excited that I opened it for him, and he wasn't even there to watch.

Austin Locke: When I was three, my family and I went to my grandma's

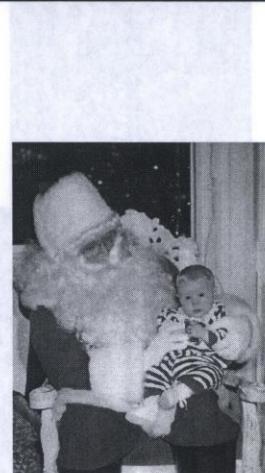
house in Michigan. We were pulled over for speeding and got a double ticket: one for speeding and the other for me not being in a car seat.



Jeffery Mech



Ethan Vines



Nathan Dewitt



Andrew Hallahan



Shep Patterson

Winter Memories



Patrick Clarke



Patrick Lovett



Chris Goodrich



Tee Griscom



Lee Grubbs



Alex Luna



Sam Givens



Aubrey Witherington



Connor Hastings



Kyle Brantley



Cole Doster

Christmas Poem by Sam Bryant

I sit in my bed and try to sleep,
The thoughts of Christmas running through
my mind.
I'm trying to sleep, but sleep won't come.
I drift into sleep and lose consciousness.
I'm asleep now and dreaming of gifts.
I wake up and rub my eyes,
My nose is filled with the smell of
Christmas pie.
I feel cold, maybe it is snowing.
I get out of bed and head for the door.
I open the door and step outside,
A chill runs down my spine.
I hear a jingle and see a streak in the sky.
I stare at it with a knowing grin,
For I realize who it must have been:
Santa Claus in his magical sleigh, and
I'll never see him again.

Winter Memories



William Tanner



Davis Thraillkill



Will Norton



Andrew Wright



Van East



Philip Spelman



John Wyse



Clay McDonald

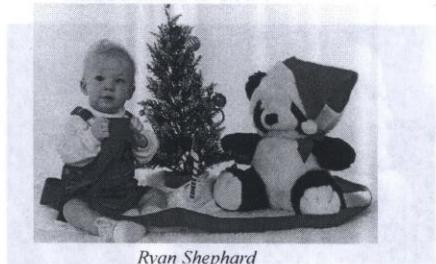
Season's
Greetings
to the
Montgomery Bell
Academy
Family



Ryan Venable



Christian Alford



Ryan Shephard



Eddie Lang

Winter Memories

Show Me The Money! (and other assorted gifts)

by Pat Killian

The wreaths on the doors of Massey, the chill in the air, and the slacking off of most students all point to one thing: the holidays are

here again. While it is called "the season of giving," we all know everyone is more interested in the "getting" part. Our parents may have wished for roller skates, hula-hoops, and harmonicas, but luckily for us, there are more interesting items on the market nowadays. Here are a few things that Junior Schoolers hope to find beneath the festive bows and wrapping paper this year:

Kevin Carr- money, iTunes gift card, PS2 games

Ryan Venable- PSP, cell phone, plasma TV

Lee Grubbs- XBOX 360, PSP, cell phone

Hayden Wieck- UNC stuff, cell phone, PSP

Campbell Haynes- PSP, cell phone

Sam Moxley- cell phone

Zach Sternberg- Apple laptop

Richard Putnam- flat screen TV, world peace

Neil Reinhardt- for the Titans to win a Super Bowl

Mickey Reid- lacrosse head

Jimmy Russel- paddle ball

Andrew Powell- pogo stick, money

Wilson Griffith- money, iPod Video

Cameron Malakouti- cell phone (Razor)

Neil Ryan- dog

Matt Bellet- money, leash for pet lizard

Clay Garret- soccer ball

Tom Markham- CDs

Most asked for: *cell phone*

Second most asked for (tie): *money & PSP*



Jordan Herring



Lewis Armistead



Matthew Moynihan

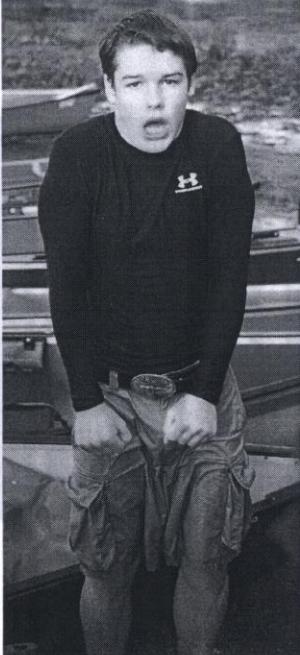
Adventure

Canoeing on the Caney

by Alex Apple

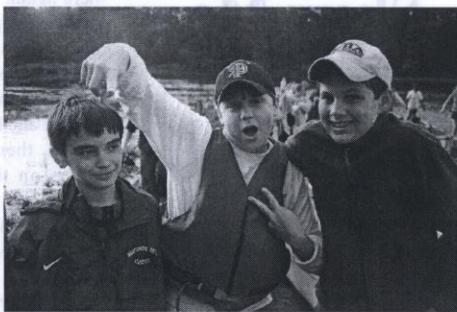
Earlier this year several MBA and Harpeth Hall eights graders went on a canoe trip to the Caney Fork River. Everyone had a good time on the bus ride up there, but was also eager to get on the water. The canoeing took about four hours. The water was the coldest anyone had ever encountered. By the half-

Jack Keyser



way point, Matthew Moynihan, Tyler Paslick, and Hannah Claybrook had already fallen into the freezing river, and Mr. Spiegel had diagnosed them with a mild case of hypothermia. On the second half of the trip, the terrific trio of Alex Apple, Tyler Paslick, and Andrew D'Aquila had fallen way behind, and the chaperones from Harpeth Hall had to wait on us (it was Matt Bracy and our square canoe's fault). Everyone had a great time and loved the trip despite the chilly weather. Much thanks to our chaperones Mrs. Ellery, Mr. Spiegel, Mr. Abrams, and Mrs. Becker!

Matthew Moynihan

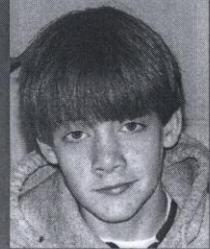


Patrick Lovett, Nate Smith, and Jackson Roberts



Alex Apple

Good luck,
Carson, as you
return home to
New Orleans!



Adventure

Dr. Death's Dungeon

by Chunsoo Park

It wasn't until a recent Wednesday morning that I found I was going to write an article for *Top of the Hill*. How excited I was until I discovered I was going to write something very random. I was to write about a pet project of Dr. Marro, a.k.a. Dr. Death, called the science project and resource room.

The science project and resource room lies on the bottom floor of Ingram under the Pfeffer lecture hall. It has two main purposes. Primarily it will support science teams such as Science Olympiad and the Envirothon in their quests for state championships. Its other purpose is to help students who are working on or trying to prepare for the new

Science Research course for seniors.

The room is currently equipped with a TV/DVD/VCR combo, power tool kits, and two computers for internet use. In addition, there is a Science Resource Library that currently contains 275 books and videos ranging from Fossils to Physics to Astronomy to Zoology. The room also has numerous science projects from previous years, and the room is full of unfinished bottle rockets and catapults.

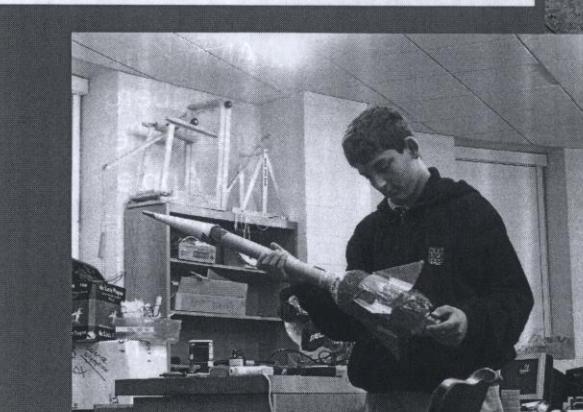
Dr. Marro would like any and all interested students to come and study there during study hall. At this cold time of the year, the S.O. Room is a comforting treat compared to all other study areas, with its warm air, comfortable chairs, and music that's sometimes on. The room

is pretty much always open. And unless Dr. Marro is there, it is a safe haven from demerits. I'm not saying that you can do bad things there; you just don't have people striking fear in you while you study.

Dr. Marro welcomes all students on P.L. to come to this room to study, and it's a great place to relax while you study for those upcoming exams.



Andrew Holmgren checks his bottle rocket, which misfires at the launch.





The Back Page

Collaborating with the Honeybears



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